

# Pharrell Williams, Musician

1. A person who is ambitious has a strong desire and determination to succeed. Pharrell Williams says, "I am overly ambitious, because I know it can be done." Does Pharell's life reflect this statement? Support your answer with details from the text.

Possible Answers:

- The quote reflects his life because he has:
  - Started two bands and has a solo career
  - He has produced music for other artists
  - He has two clothing lines
  - He had written a book.

2. What details from the passage support the statement below:

**Pharrell is a successful musician.**

Possible Answers:

- He is a coach on *The Voice*.
- As of 2020, Pharrell has been nominated for 38 Grammy Awards and has won 13.

3. What can you infer from the details below?

- He is the leader of an organization called From One Hand To AnOTHER" (FOHTA). This organization provides opportunities and tools to students in the areas of science, technology, engineering, art, math, and motivation.
- He also has the Pharrell Williams Resource Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This is a place for students to stay and study after the school day ends.
- He has written a children's book.

Possible Answers:

- He wants to help children.
- He thinks children are important.
- Educating students is important to him.

4. Summarize what Pharrell Williams does in one sentence.

Pharell Williams is an award winning musician who also works in the fashion industry.

# Oprah Winfrey, T.V. Host and Actress

1. How did Oprah's degree in performing arts help her when she left college?

Oprah's degree in performing arts helped her become an actress for movies and television.

2. How do you know that Oprah cares about helping others? Possible Answers:

- She has donated a lot of her money to less fortunate people.
- She has two foundations that help others.
- She built a school in Africa

3. Summarize the passage in 3-5 sentences.

Possible Answer:

Oprah Winfrey is famous for her talk show, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Besides being a talk show host, she is an actress. She also owns several companies including Harpo Productions and Harpo Films.

5. In your opinion, what is Oprah's biggest achievement? Support your reason.

Possible Answers:

- Starting her foundations→helping thousands of people
- Starting her companies→making money, becoming a billionaire
- Building a school in South Africa→helping children learn

# Jackie Robinson, Baseball Player

1. How does the following quote relate to Jackie Robinson's life?

A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.

Possible Answer: This quote relates to Jackie Robinson's life. If he had not chosen to help desegregate the MLB, it might not have happened. But, because he did, this has impacted thousands of minority players. His life was important because of the impact it had on others.

2. Why do you think it was important that Jackie not respond in anger to the people who threw things at him and called him names? Possible Answer: I think it was important that he did not respond in anger because that is what they expected and wanted him to do. He kept his honor and integrity by remaining calm. He set a great example for others.

3. What did Jackie Robinson do after his baseball career ended that showed he was still committed to making the United States a better place for Blacks?

Possible Answers:

- He joined the NAACP.
- He worked with Martin Luther King, Jr.
- He helped start a bank for Blacks.

5. Summarize the life of Jackie Robinson in 3-5 sentences. Possible Answer: Jackie Robinson was the first Black baseball player in the MLB. He helped to integrate the league. After retiring from baseball, he continued to participate in the Civil Rights Movement by working with the NAACP and Martin Luther King, Jr.

# George Washington Carver, Inventor

1. How did George Washington Carver's childhood impact his adult life?

Possible Answer: During his childhood George was interested in growing plants. This impacted his choice of learning about farming in college.

2. What would have happened if George Washington Carver had decided to study painting?

Possible Answer: George wouldn't have invented all the uses for peanuts and sweet potatoes. He wouldn't have learned about crop rotation.

3. What details from the story support the statement below?

George Washington Carver did not care about becoming wealthy.

Possible Answers:

- George could have made a lot of money selling his discoveries. But he felt that he should share his knowledge for free.
- In 1906 he created a moving school. It was a school inside a wagon. George would drive from farm to farm teaching farmers what he knew. This was free to all farmers.

4. In your opinion, which of George Washington Carver's Achievements was most valuable to the United States? Explain your reasoning.

- Finding many uses for the peanut
- Finding mean uses for the sweet potato
- Teaching farmers about crop rotation.

Possible Answers:

- Peanuts→foods that people enjoy
- Sweet Potatoes→substitute for wheat
- Crop Rotation→improved soil, increased crop production